

# THE WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 8, 2014**

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## **Sophia Agranovich in Recital at the Watchung Arts Center**

April 8, 2014 (Watchung, NJ) Pianist Sophia Agranovich, a master interpreter of music of the Romantic Era, will grace the stage with a performance in the sophisticated Upper Gallery of the Watchung Arts Center on Saturday, May 31st at 8 PM. A lively reception to meet the artist follows the concert.

The program will feature some of the most challenging pieces in the piano repertoire - the lyrical, colossal and orchestral-in-nature ‘Wanderer’ Fantasie by Franz Schubert, and the epic, profoundly nostalgic Ballades by Frederic Chopin. ‘Wanderer’ revolutionized sonata form in structure, virtuosity, thematic transformation, and conception of the piano as a surrogate orchestra. Its long melodic lines, texture and dynamics convey depth of conflicting emotions.

**Sophia Agranovich** is an internationally acclaimed virtuoso pianist, recording artist and educator. Her passionate and mesmerizing concerts and recordings have received many outstanding reviews, and have captivated audiences worldwide. "Sophia Agranovich's alchemy of mind-bending technical prowess and heart-melting emotional expressivity add up to one of the most glorious piano recitals this side of Elysium. Urgently recommended." (Fanfare). "Magnificent shading and superior musicianship..." (American Record Guide).

A Steinway Artist, a First Prize winner of All-Ukrainian Young Artists and Bergen Philharmonic competitions, Ms. Agranovich earned Bachelor and Master Degrees at the Juilliard School where she held a full scholarship and teaching Fellowship, and did post-graduate studies at Columbia University. Her major professors were legendary Sascha Gorodnitzki and Nadia Reisenberg. Sophia has collaborated with world-renowned musicians and members of major orchestras. Among her venues are Avery Fisher Hall, Bruno Walter Auditorium and Paul Hall at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Steinway Hall, and Bargemusic, all in New York City. She has also performed internationally at Salle Cortot in Paris, Ehrbar Hall in Vienna, Rubin Academy of Music in Tel-Aviv, Kiev Tchaikovsky National Academy of Music and Lvov State Conservatory in Ukraine.

Sophia Agranovich is an esteemed educator, lecturer, clinician, adjudicator, and is a recipient of numerous awards for teaching excellence. Her students are consistently winning top awards in national and international competitions. She is a Program Chair of MEA, Artistic Director of the "Classicals at the Circle" series at the Watchung Arts Center, and is listed in Who's Who in America, and Who's Who in the World. More information about Sophia Agranovich may be found on her website, [www.sophiagranovich.com](http://www.sophiagranovich.com).

Tickets for this performance are \$16 in advance, \$20 (\$18 WAC members, \$10 students) at the door. Tickets may be purchased online at [watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com](http://watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com). To obtain more information about upcoming performances, classes and workshops, and monthly art exhibitions, please visit [WatchungArts.org](http://WatchungArts.org) or call 908-753-0190.

The Watchung Arts Center, located at 18 Stirling Road in Watchung on the Watchung Circle, is a multi-disciplinary performing arts facility serving Watchung, the surrounding communities and the Tri-State Area.

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